

Maine GeoSpatial Stakeholder Identified Coordination Gaps

(Gaps Identified by Stakeholders Through Regional Forums, the On-Line Survey and Stakeholder Meetings)

<u>Gaps (*See Note Below)</u>	<u>Potential Solutions</u>	<u>Comments</u>
<i>Data Sharing</i>		
Inability to easily find data	1. Perform annual inventory of geospatial data across the state and post on the website. (List datasets, data custodians and their contact information.) Work with CIO to have state agencies report on data posted, not posted, under development and planned for development. Request communities and NFP's across the state to volunteer to complete data inventory. 2. Provide a continuous campaign to post data and metadata to the portal.	Refer to : http://www.nysgis.state.ny.us/gisdata/index.cfm as a potential example.
Difficulty in knowing when new data is posted or other data is updated	Work with CIO to have state agencies report on new or data updates to Board List Serve and post on web site as well. Request others around state to notify the Board as well.	This seems like a simple solution that can pay big dividends over time.
Difficulty in downloading or accessing data	Data will be available via web services through portal. Other potential solutions include reducing the file size to make them more easily downloadable by local users.	Files for imagery are too large for some users.
Need easier services for generating and understanding metadata	Using the Portal's metadata tool (requirement for data posting), it will only take 5 minutes at the most to create metadata.	Advertising the portal and making data developers aware of the ease of use of its meta data tool is vital to overcome this issue. The Board should consider providing a major campaign to make users across the state aware of this valuable resource.
Inability to easily get access to state and local data	1. Perform annual inventory of geospatial data across the state and post on the website. (List datasets, data custodians and their contact information.) Work with CIO to have state agencies report on data posted, not posted, under development and planned for development. Request communities and NFP's across the state to volunteer to complete data inventory. 2. Provide a continuous campaign to post data and metadata to the portal.	Refer to : http://www.nysgis.state.ny.us/gisdata/index.cfm as a potential example.

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<i>Data Development</i>		
Provide updated imagery (every 3-5 years)	Develop a program with consistent annual funding that covers a portion of the state each year. Provide coverage for the highest growth regions every 3 years. Work to take advantage of the NAIP program for the vast amount of rural areas in the state. Use USGS and NGA funding to supplement urban, coastal and high growth areas.	Determine what resolutions meet state government needs. Provide options to purchase higher resolutions by municipalities. Consider contracting for QA/QC to speed up delivery. Aim for 6-8 months turn around for completed imagery.
Provide statewide parcel data	Implement Integrated Land Records Information System.	
Develop one uniform roads (and addressing) dataset	Work with CIO, DOT and E-911 to integrate data and reduce redundancies. Establish work group to determine user needs (road centerlines versus road edges, etc.)	This has been tried previously without success.
Develop new, high resolution, statewide elevation data	Develop a program that completes a portion of the state each year and provides overall coverage of the state within 5 years.	This was a data need that was addressed in the Regional Forums, and later, specifically noted in the priority listing of vector data in the On-Line Survey.
<i>Coordination Activities</i>		
Data development	Provide an on-line inventory of data available, data under development and data planned for future develop. Encourage all data developers to post data development plans on the GeoLibrary Board list serve prior to starting work and encourage data development partnerships where practical.	
Application development	Provide an on-line inventory of applications under development and applications planned for future develop. Encourage all application developers to post data development plans on the GeoLibrary Board list serve prior to starting work and encourage data development partnerships where practical.	
Data sharing	Encourage data sharing to save costs, time, and resources by making it a theme in statewide presentations.	Data sharing should be a campaign theme for the Board. In addition, the Board should measure the number of downloads occurring from its site each year and their estimated value to help to demonstrate the value of the Board.

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GIS Project Partnerships	Encourage partnerships to save costs, time, and resources by making it a theme in statewide presentations.	Consider providing an annual award to an outstanding project with multiple partners that contributed to its success.
Training	Establish an on-line calendar of training activities around the state on the GeoLibrary website. Work with MEGUG and the university geospatial consortium to include information on professional training and curricula available in Maine colleges and universities.	
Provide access to lessons learned	Ask MEGUG to have members provide short write ups on lessons they have learned. Post these to the GeoLibrary list serve and in a "Lessons Learned" portion of the GeoLibrary website.	
Need GIS funding for local government	Examine the potential for establishing a GIS grant program for local government. Use it to encourage data and resource sharing as well as partnership projects.	
<i>Communication</i>		
Who is the Board? What is the Board doing? How can I find out? Why is the Board relevant to me?	Update information on the website on a regular basis. Provide monthly Board meetings each month, post the annual report, provide monthly news blip, project updates and list the latest in data updates. Speak at annual MMA, County, MEGUG, and other relevant conferences. Highlight accomplishments immediately as they occur.	This all gets back to establishing the relevancy of the Board to those within and outside the Maine geospatial community. If government, private sector and citizens aren't aware and fully able to take advantage of what the Board does, this will significantly diminish the value of its efforts.
What is being done around state that others might take advantage of?	Refer to the above solutions on data development, data sharing, application development, education and partnerships. Provide a "What's New" section of the GeoLibrary and update it at least weekly. Use the GeoLibrary List Serve to put out "News Blips" monthly and encourage all to join the GeoLibrary List Serve.	
How can GIS users stay in touch w/GIS issues, activities & opportunities	Actively encourage members of MEGUG, MMA, state government, etc. to join the GeoLibrary List Serve and post activities there. Provide a "Calendar of Events" on the GeoLibrary website and keep it up to date.	

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How is GIS being coordinated at a statewide level?	1. Review suggested solutions under coordination activities above. Implement those (where practical) along with current activities. 2. Develop campaign across the state to help others improve their GIS capabilities and lower the barriers to implementing and using geospatial technologies in Maine. Use the opportunity to highlight the GeoLibrary Boards' coordination activities, measured results and accomplishments achieved. 3. Solicit input from stakeholders across the state on an annual basis both by holding regional forums and conducting an on-line survey. 4. Make the input received part of the Board's annual planning process.	Once again this all gets back to establishing the relevancy of the Board as noted above.
How does the Board promote the use of GIS?	Establish a coordinated campaign to promote the use of GIS in state, county and local government as well as prominent private sector areas would provide the Board with some significant name recognition. Provide training to high school teachers who use GIS to teach their courses.	
<i>GIS Education/training</i>		
How can I find inexpensive GIS training?	Work with MEGUG and establish an education work group and work with the university consortium and the ESRI certified trainers to post a calendar of training/educational opportunities. Encourage trainers to post their training on the GeoLibrary List Serve.	
Where is training being given around the state and where?	Work with MEGUG and establish an education work group and work with the university consortium and the ESRI certified trainers to post a calendar of training/educational opportunities. Encourage trainers to post their training on the GeoLibrary List Serve.	
GIS is too complicated (or costly).	1. Provide a training program to help them take advantage of Google or Virtual Earth solutions which could meet their base needs. 2. Provide a statewide web service for municipalities. Create web service templates for municipalities to use that provide simple zoning, planning, tax parcel and other applications that don't require GIS expertise.	

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Who can I contact for help?	Establish an educational section on the website and provide contacts for training opportunities as well as university references. Encourage beginners and others to ask questions on the GeoLibrary List Serve.	A more expensive solution is to have a Help Desk established for the state. Refer to: http://www.gishost.com/gishelpdesk/
How do I start a GIS program for my town?	Providing a simple "getting started" kit for municipalities would be helpful along with a statewide municipal web service (see below).	
<i>Software too expensive</i>		
How can I get access to GIS software that is less expensive?	Provide a statewide web service for municipalities. Create web service templates for municipalities through the Portal to use that provide simple zoning, planning, tax parcel and other applications that don't require GIS expertise.	
How can I share software?	Highlight partnerships like Lewiston/Auburn's for sharing GIS resources. Take advantage of a state web service with basic municipal applications to cover the majority of needs. Work with the software supplier to see what avenues are available for sharing.	
Is there a better way to purchase software?	Work with municipalities to take advantage of ESRI's small government enterprise license structure. Work with the software supplier to see what avenues are available.	

* **Note** - The gaps noted above were derived from the public Forums, on-line survey, and various meetings held across the state in 2008.